

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for configuring a management module for use in monitoring operations associated with a computer system, the method comprising:

(a) prior to the management module being configured to monitor a plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module and analyze, based on the monitored plurality of components, whether an event has occurred in the computer system, detecting a first component of the plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module by querying a plurality of slave addresses, wherein the first component at a first slave address of the plurality of slave addresses is detected upon responding to the query, and wherein the first component senses and provides to the management module operational information relating to operations associated with the computer system;

(b) identifying a type of information provided by the detected first component;

(c) creating a configuration file specifying the type of information identified for the detected first component;

(d) incorporating the configuration file into the management module such that the management module is configured to (i) receive the identified type of information from the detected first component and (ii) analyze, based on the identified type of information from the detected first component, whether an event has occurred in the computer system;

(e) defining a plurality of description files, each description file corresponding to a component which may be included within a configuration for the computer system, wherein the plurality of description files each specify a component classification for the component corresponding to each description file and the type of information that may be provided by the component;

wherein the identifying act (b) comprises

(b)(i) issuing an identification request on the first slave address, wherein the identification request commands the first component to respond with identification information associated with the first component,

(b)(ii) receiving the identification information from the first component,  
and

(b)(iii) analyzing the identification information against the plurality of  
description files to determine which of the plurality of description files corresponds to the first  
component.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the management  
module is operable to communicate with the plurality of components of the computer system by  
way of a plurality of active slave addresses on a communication medium of the computer system,  
the plurality of active slave addresses being a subset of a plurality of possible slave addresses  
communicatively accessible to the management module by way of the communication medium,  
the detecting act (a) comprising:

(a)(i) transmitting a discovery request on each of the plurality of possible slave  
addresses; and

(a)(ii) responsive to the transmitting act, receiving an acknowledgement response  
from the first component indicating that the first component is communicatively accessible on a  
specific active slave address.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 2, wherein the receiving act (a)(ii)  
comprises:

receiving a plurality of acknowledgement responses from a specific plurality of  
the plurality of components, each acknowledgement response representing detection of each of  
the specific plurality of components on one of the plurality of active slave addresses, wherein the  
first component is one of the specific plurality of components and the specific active slave  
address is one of the plurality of active slave addresses on which at least one of the specific  
plurality of components is detected.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 3, wherein the transmitting act  
(a)(i) comprises:

(a)(i)(I) issuing a discovery request on a possible slave address; and

(a)(i)(II) after a predetermined period in time has passed from which the discovery request was issued on the slave address, repeating the issuing act until each of the plurality of possible slave addresses have been pinged.

5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 4, wherein the detecting act (a) further comprises:

(a)(iii) in response to receiving the acknowledgement responses from each of the specific plurality of components, adding the active slave addresses from which the acknowledgement responses are received to a log file, wherein the log file, when complete, comprises a listing of each of the plurality of active slave addresses.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 5, wherein the identifying act (b) further comprises:

(b) (iv) traversing the listing in the log file to extract therefrom an active slave address;

(b) (v) issuing an identification request to the extracted active slave address;

(b) (vi) receiving information from one of the specific plurality of components communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address; and

(b) (vii) analyzing the received information to identify a type of information provided by the component communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 6, wherein the extracted active slave address is the specific active slave address and the one of the specific plurality of components is the first component.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 6, wherein the identifying act (b) further comprises:

(b) (viii) repeating the traversing (b)(iv), issuing (b)(v), receiving (b)(vi) and analyzing (b)(vii) act for each of the plurality of active slave addresses included in the listing, wherein the configuration file is created by the creating act to specify the type of information identified for each of the specific plurality of components such that when the configuration file is

incorporated into the management module, the management module is consequently operable to receive the identified types of information from each of the specific plurality of components.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the creating act (c) comprises:

incorporating the description file corresponding to the first component into the configuration file.

12. (Original) A method as defined in claim 11, wherein the identification request is a standard request operable for commanding all components which may be communicatively connected to the management module to respond with identification information.

13-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the component classification for the first component is sensor and the type of information that may be provided to the management module by the first component is selected from the group consisting of voltages, currents, temperatures, velocity and acceleration.

18-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium storing computer executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method for configuring a management module for use in monitoring operations associated with a computer system, the method comprising:

(a) prior to the management module being configured to monitor a plurality of components communicatively connected to the management module and analyze, based on the monitored plurality of components, whether an event has occurred in the computer system, discovering a previously undiscovered first component of the plurality of components

communicatively connected to the management module by querying a plurality of slave addresses, wherein the first component at a first slave address of the plurality of slave addresses is discovered upon responding to the query, and wherein the first component senses and provides to the management module operational information relating to operations associated with the computer system;

(b) identifying a type of information provided by the detected first component;

(c) creating a configuration file specifying the type of information identified for the detected first component; and

(d) incorporating the configuration file into the management module such that the management module is configured to receive the identified type of information from the detected first component and analyze, based on the identified type of information from the detected first component, whether an event has occurred in the computer system;

(e) defining a plurality of description files, each description file corresponding to a component which may be included within a configuration for the computer system, wherein the plurality of description files each specify a component classification for the component corresponding to each description file and the type of information that may be provided by the component;

wherein each of the plurality of description files comprises an identification routine executable by the management module to create and transmit an identification request to components communicatively accessible on slave addresses;

wherein the identification request commands the component corresponding to the description file to respond with a specific acknowledgement that the component is communicatively accessible on a particular slave address, the identifying act (b) comprising

(b)(i) extracting one of the plurality of description files,

(b)(ii) executing the identification routine specified in the extracted description file such that the identification request is transmitted on the first slave address,

(b)(iii) if the specific acknowledgement is received from the first component on the first slave address, linking the first component to the extracted description file,

(b)(iv) if the specific acknowledgement is not received from the first component within a predetermined period in time, repeating the extracting and executing acts

for another one of the plurality of description files until the identification information is received from the first component;

wherein the creating act (c) comprises incorporating the description file linked to the first component into the configuration file.

51. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 50, wherein the management module is operable to communicate with the plurality of components of the computer system by way of a plurality of active slave addresses on a communication medium of the computer system, the plurality of active slave addresses being a subset of a plurality of possible slave addresses communicatively accessible to the management module by way of the communication medium, the detecting act (a) comprising:

(a)(i) transmitting a discovery request on each of the plurality of possible slave addresses; and

(a)(ii) responsive to the transmitting act, receiving an acknowledgement response from the first component indicating that the first component is communicatively accessible on a specific active slave address.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 51, wherein the receiving act (a)(ii) comprises:

receiving a plurality of acknowledgement responses from a specific plurality of the plurality of components, each acknowledgement response representing detection of each of the specific plurality of components on one of the plurality of active slave addresses, wherein the first component is one of the specific plurality of components and the specific active slave address is one of the plurality of active slave addresses on which at least one of the specific plurality of components is detected.

53. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 52, wherein the transmitting act (a)(i) comprises:

(a)(i)(I) issuing a discovery request on a possible slave address; and

(a)(i)(II) after a predetermined period in time has passed from which the discovery request was issued on the slave address, repeating the issuing act until each of the plurality of possible slave addresses have been pinged.

54. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 53, wherein the detecting act (a) further comprises:

(a)(iii) in response to receiving the acknowledgement responses from each of the specific plurality of components, adding the active slave addresses from which the acknowledgement responses are received to a log file, wherein the log file, when complete, comprises a listing of each of the plurality of active slave addresses.

55. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 54, wherein the identifying act (b) comprises:

(b) (v) traversing the listing in the log file to extract therefrom an active slave address;

(b) (vi) issuing an identification request to the extracted active slave address;

(b) (vii) receiving information from one of the specific plurality of components communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address; and

(b) (viii) analyzing the received information to identify a type of information provided by the component communicatively accessible on the extracted active slave address.

56. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 55, wherein the extracted active slave address is the specific active slave address and the one of the specific plurality of components is the first component.

57. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium as defined in claim 55, wherein the identifying act (b) further comprises:

(b) (iv) repeating the traversing (b) (v), issuing (b) (vi), receiving (b) (vii) and analyzing (b) (viii) act for each of the plurality of active slave addresses included in the listing, wherein the configuration file is created by the creating act to specify the type of information identified for each of the specific plurality of components such that when the configuration file is

incorporated into the management module, the management module is consequently operable to receive the identified types of information from each of the specific plurality of components.

58-86. (Cancelled).